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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No representations have been received by the Government against the amendments. Certain criticisms made by the South India Teachers' Union in respect of these amendments have appeared in the newspapers. A Press Note (No. 22, dated 18th March 1954), has been issued clarifying the position and pointing out the misapprehensions on which the criticisms were based."

Implementation of the award of the Labour Appellate Tribunal by B.N. Press, Madras.

* 805 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state why the Government did not take steps to get the award given by the Labour Appellate Tribunal on 25th November 1953 implemented by the B.N. Press, Madras-2, regarding reinstatement of a worker with back wages?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Since the order of the Appellate Tribunal was published on 6th January 1954, the Government are taking steps to recover the dues, and to prosecute the management if they do not reinstate the worker."

Gazetted officers stationed for more than three years in the City in the Electricity Department.

* 806 *Q.*—SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of engineers in the gazetted rank who have been in the Electricity Department, Madras Electricity System (Madras City), for more than three years; and

(*b*) whether there is any Government Order to the effect that no officer should continue in a particular station for more than three years?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Fourteen.

" (*b*) Yes. Instructions have been issued that gazetted officers of the rank of Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers should not ordinarily be retained in the same station for more than three years. On grounds of administrative convenience and efficiency of the department or the nature of any contract post, however, it may be necessary on occasions, to retain some officers for over three years in the same station."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Sir, is it not a fact that in the South Zone Madras Electricity System, officers who have been working for more than three years, are still stationed there? "

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THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, I have no definite information about South Zone. I do not know what the hon. Member means by South Zone . . . ."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" The South Madras Electric Supply system? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The reason given is that the distribution system is mostly underground in a highly urban area and so is a complicated one. In the interest of efficiency, it is necessary to employ only competent officers to manage the system where we have city consumers. Even when officers remain there for more than three years, several complaints could not be avoided. If they are changed in the middle and new officers are posted, complaints may increase. However, I may inform the House that new officers have been trained to replace the existing officers eventually."

Remission of land revenue in Malabar.

* 807 *Q.*—SRI K. M. SEETHI SAHIB (on behalf of Sri A. Appu) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to give remission of land revenue in respect of wet lands in Malabar on which the Makaram crops have withered?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" There is no proposal to grant special remissions in respect of wet lands in any part of Malabar. The ordinary seasonal remissions admissible under the rules are reported to be sufficient."

Withdrawal of the relief scheme formulated for the benefit of the handloom weavers.

* 808 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some reliefs hitherto given to handloom weavers have been withdrawn; and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The question is vague. If the hon. Member is referring to the relief scheme formulated by the Government for the benefit of the weavers in 1952, it was in force till 31st January 1954. Since then, schemes financed from the Mill Cloth Cess Fund are in progress and the continuance of the relief scheme organized by the State Government was not necessary."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—" பட்ஜெட் பிரசங்கத்தில் செஸ் பண்டு திட்டத்தால் பிரயோசனம் இல்லையென்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அப்படி இருக்கும்போது ஏன் இம்மாதிரி இந்த ஸ்கீமை வாபஸ் வாங்கவேண்டும் ?"